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SOVIETS' STAR WARS SECRETS BARED BY CIA

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WASHINGTON — The CIA yesterday showed Congress startling details of the Soviet Union's Star Wars defense system.

Congress was told that the Soviets have devoted 1.8 percent of their entire Gross National Product for the last 15 years to the project.

At a top-secret briefing on Capitol Hill, top CIA officials also produced photographs from U.S. satellites showing a massive campaign by the Soviets to make themselves invincible in a nuclear war.

The Pentagon believes that the Soviet grand design is to:

- Continue its three-to-one superiority over the U.S. in land-based offensive nuclear weapons so that it will possess a "first strike" capability.

- Have a huge anti-missile defense system in place to destroy any surviving weapons that the U.S. would use to retaliate.

The extent of the resources devoted by the Kremlin to the missile defense system — estimated to be around \$10-20 billion a year — stunned the 65 members of Congress who attended yesterday's session.

This year the U.S. will spend only \$2.7 billion on Star Wars research.

The new evidence comes as Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev launched a public relations blitz in Western Europe against President Reagan's Star Wars defense research project — which began

only two years ago.

The Soviet missile defense system is different in many ways from the three-tiered space-based Astrodome concept that has been proposed by Reagan, officials said.

The CIA has concluded that the Soviet system is designed to use less exotic weaponry than the U.S. system by concentrating on developing primarily land-based air defense radars and anti-ballistic missile systems and tens of thousands of jet interceptors.

But at the same time, the Soviet technology is designed for the "near term" and much of it is already deployed or will be in use by the '90s, the congressional members were told.

White House officials have said recently that it will be five years at least before it is known whether the space-based concept envisioned by Reagan is feasible. Its deployment could not take place before the year 2000.

According to a congressional source who attended the briefing, the Soviets have been working feverishly for the past 15 years in three areas:

- Anti-ballistic missile and radar systems.

- Laser, particle beam and kinetic energy weapons.

- Land-based anti-satellite systems.

The first and most advanced is the development of huge radar systems with "battle management capabilities" that can track approaching U.S. warheads, transmit their locations instantly to anti-missile batteries

and then guide the missiles to their targets.

Officials said this system, known as Dog House, Cat House and Hen House, is already in advanced stages of development in several areas of the Soviet Union.

Each complex consists of tracking and guidance radars and nuclear-armed ground-based missiles designed to intercept warheads in space shortly before they enter the earth's atmosphere.

The Soviets also are on the verge of developing devastating laser, kinetic energy, radio frequency and particle

beam weapons systems.

Already there have been lasers developed that are capable of damaging or "blinding" U.S. satellites in orbit.

Congress members were shown pictures of a facility south of Moscow in which small "controlled" nuclear explosions take place and are used to generate huge amounts of energy needed to power laser weapons.

The Soviets also have developed a rocket-driven magnethypodynamic generator that produces more than 15 megawatts of electric power. There is no similar device in the West.